



_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION congratulating the Brown County Junior High School We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution team.

Whereas, The We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution program was developed by the Center for Civic Education and is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, under an act of Congress, with a goal of promoting civic responsibility and competence in students;

Whereas, 50 state coordinators and a coordinator in each of the 435 congressional districts, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands administer the program;

Whereas, Students in grades 4 through 12 participate in the program;

Whereas, On December 17, 2012, Brown County Junior High School's We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution team, led by teacher Michael Potts, defeated 11 other schools from around the state to secure the title of We the People Middle School State Champion for the third consecutive year;

Whereas, In preparation for the competition, the students studied before and after school and worked many eight-hour days on Saturdays;

Whereas, After careful study of American history,



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constitutional philosophy, current events, and numerous court cases, the semester ends at the We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution state finals, where the students testify in mock congressional hearings before panels of volunteer judges from the legal community while competing against other schools throughout Indiana;

Whereas, Previously, a state title was the highest achievement at the middle school level; however, this year marks the inaugural We the People Middle School National Finals, to be held May 3-7 at George Mason University in Washington, D.C.;

Whereas, Brown County Junior High School's state championship has earned the school a chance to represent the community and the state of Indiana and an opportunity to compete at a national level; and

Whereas, Involvement with the We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution competition allows students to develop a greater understanding of democratic principles and prepares Indiana youth for a future that will encourage their knowledge of and participation in our democratic system of government: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the Senate concurring:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly congratulates coach Michael Potts and the Brown County Junior High School team on their victory in the We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution competition and urges each member of the team to continue to express a commitment to democratic principles.

SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit copies of this resolution to team members Victoria Nicole Akles, Will Remington Austin, Sarah E. Barrick, Andrew Kenneth Burker, Joshua Matthew Cochran, Cameron Alexander Flesher, Michael David Hess, Elisabeth Meta Huls, Elizabeth Mae Jenson, Victoria Jane Kelp, Sean Nicholas Lopes, Baylee Jacob Mosier, Cash William Myers, Monica Shea Percifield, Wylie Izora Poling, Bailee C. Robison, James Noah Seidle, Abigail Rose Shaffer, William Cole Smith, Ryanne Danielle Smith, Molly Jo Snyder, August Spiegel, Eleanor Elly Grace Wertz, Eli Thomas Wilson, and coach Michael Potts.

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